

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 07-105 December 20, 2007

Rulemaking by the Department of Public Utilities, on its own motion, commencing a rulemaking pursuant to 220 C.M.R. §§ 2.00 et seq., and for the purpose of amending various Department regulations.

On December 20, 2007 the Department of Public Utilities ("Department"), issued an Order instituting a rulemaking proceeding, on its own motion, commencing a rulemaking pursuant to 220 C.M.R. §§ 2.00 et seq., and for the purpose of amending 220 C.M.R. § 1.00 et seq., Procedural Rules; 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq., Adoption of Regulations; 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq., Tariffs, Schedules and Contracts (Other Than Commercial Motor Vehicles); 220 C.M.R. § 6.00 et seq., Standard Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause; 220 C.M.R. § 7.00 et seq., Residential and Commercial Energy Conservation Service Program Cost Recovery; 220 C.M.R. 8.00 et seq., Sales of Electricity By Qualifying Facilities and On-Site Generating Facilities To Distribution Companies, and Sales of Electricity By Distribution Companies To Qualifying Facilities and On-Site Generating Facilities; 220 C.M.R. § 9.00 et seq., Cost Recovery For Major Electric Company Generation Investments,; 220 C.M.R. § 11.00 et seq., Rules Governing Restructuring of the Electric Industry; 220 C.M.R. § 12.00 et seq., Standards of Conduct For Distribution Companies and Their Affiliates; 220 C.M.R. § 14.00 et seq., The Unbundling of Services Related To The Provision of Natural Gas; 220 C.M.R. § 25.00 et seq., Billing and Termination Procedures of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy; C.M.R. § 99.00 et seq., Procedures For the Determination and Enforcement of Violations of G.L. c. 82, § 40 ("Dig Safe"); 220 C.M.R. § 109.00 et seq., Design, Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Intrastate Pipelines Operating In Excess of 200 PSIG; 220 C.M.R. § 126.00, Underground Electric Supply and Communications Lines 50,000 Volts and Below; 220 C.M.R. § 152.00 et seq., Sureties Required of Operators of Motor Vehicles For the Carriage of Passengers For Hire; 220 C.M.R. § 153 et seq., Certificates Running To The Registrar of Motor Vehicles; 220 C.M.R. § 155.00 et seq., Operation of Motor Vehicles For Hire Under A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Charter License, Special Service or School Service Permit; and 220 C.M.R. § 250.00 et seq., Transportation Division Practice.

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The proposed regulations would make changes consistent with Chapter 19 of the Acts of 2007 ("Chapter 19"). For example, references to the former Department of Telecommunications and Energy have been replaced with the words "Department of Public Utilities." In addition to amendments necessary to carry out Chapter 19, the proposed revisions correct typographical errors, make changes consistent with other statutory amendments and replace or delete outdated information. The proposed regulations also contain new sections designed to codify long-standing Department practice with regard to ex parte communications and requests for confidential treatment of filings. A copy of the Department's Order and regulations may be viewed at the Department's offices at the South Station address listed below. In addition, the Department has posted a copy of the Order and regulations on its website, http://www.mass.gov/dpu.

To provide opportunity for comment, and pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, §§ 2 and 4, and 220 C.M.R. § 2.05, the Department will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts. Interested persons may present facts, opinions, or arguments relating to the proposed revisions to the regulations at the public hearing. The Department seeks initial written comments prior to the public hearing, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 30, 2008. Initial written comments should be limited in length to a maximum of ten one-sided, double-spaced typewritten pages. Following the public hearing, written reply comments must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 6, 2008. Reply comments should be limited in length to a maximum of ten one-sided, double-spaced typewritten pages. All written comments should be filed with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@state.ma.us and elizabeth.cellucci@state.ma.us or (2) on a 3.5" disk or CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail, disk label, or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 07-105), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be created in either Corel WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or Adobe Acrobat (version 7 or higher). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel (version 2000). The Department strongly encourages filers to avoid submitting scanned files but will accept them for posting when an alternative version does not exist in electronic format. In addition, if the petitioner, applicant, or any other participant has already filed a document relevant to this proceeding, such as the initial petition, application, or filing, without providing an electronic copy of that document, such entity is directed to do so in compliance with the above electronic filing requirements as soon as practicable. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: http://www.mass.gov/dpu.

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By Order of the Department,

MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY